

[illegible]

-- EU and international firms that choose not to participate in the CDC should in no way be discriminated against in competing for natural gas resources. The CDC should not be a mechanism for selling gas on a subsidized or preferential basis.

-- We cannot not support CDC if it becomes directly involved in upstream development, as private companies with the financial, technical and operational expertise to bring new resources online are best positioned to accomplish develop energy resources. The Commission should stress to Turkmenistan the need for private upstream investment.

-- We welcome updates on the CDC study and look forward to cooperating with the EC on improving European energy supply diversification and development of a Southern Corridor for energy.

RICE